

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1 and 18 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for maintaining, in a system in which each of a plurality of client processes connected via an information transmission medium holds and uses shared data to be shared by the plurality of client processes, consistency of shared data held by the respective plurality of client processes, comprising:

a holding step of holding the shared data, wherein the shared data include a plurality of items, and mode information is provided for each of the plurality of items;

an input step of inputting an input manipulation request generated by its own client process;

~~a determining step of determining a mode, based on designation information used to designate a mode to be adopted to each of a plurality of items included in the shared data, and manipulation contents the mode information corresponding to an item which is a target of~~ the input manipulation request, from a plurality of modes including a first mode, a second mode, and a third mode; and

a processing step of executing a process corresponding to the input manipulation request input in the input step or a received manipulation request generated by another client process,

~~wherein the determining step determines that the mode corresponding to the manipulation request is the first mode or the second mode, when the manipulation contents of the input manipulation request is based on a user's interactive manipulation;~~

wherein, with regard to execution of the received manipulation request, the processing step includes:

    a receiving step of receiving the received manipulation request generated by a client process other than its own client process, via a server process; and

    an execution step of executing a process corresponding to the received manipulation request in order of receiving the received manipulation request,

    and wherein, with regard to execution of the input manipulation request input in the input step, the processing step includes:

        a sending step of sending, when the manipulation request requests a manipulation of the shared data, request information that represents the input manipulation request to the server process;

        a reception step of receiving response information corresponding to the request information sent in the sending step, from the server process; and

        a manipulation execution step of executing a manipulation for the shared data in accordance with the input manipulation request or the response information received in the reception step,

    and wherein, in a case where the determining step determines that the mode corresponding to the input manipulation request input in the input step is the first mode, the manipulation execution step manipulates the shared data in response to the input manipulation request and the sending step sends the request information indicating the input manipulation request to the server process,

and wherein, in a case where the determining step determines that the mode corresponding to the input manipulation request input in the input step is the second mode,

the sending step sends the request information indicating the manipulation request to the server process in response to the input manipulation request, and

the manipulation execution step manipulates the shared data based on the input manipulation request indicated by a reception information in response of the reception information when the reception information is received from the server process within a time limit of manipulation execution, and

the manipulation execution step manipulates the shared data in accordance with the input manipulation request corresponding to the request information when the reception information is not received from the server process within a time limit of manipulation execution,

and wherein, in a case where the determining step determines that the mode corresponding to the input manipulation request input in the input step is the third mode,

the sending step sends, in accordance with the input manipulation request, request information that represents the input manipulation request to the server process, and

the manipulation execution step manipulates the shared data in accordance with the input manipulation request corresponding to the request information in response to reception of the reception information.

2. to 7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of providing a user interface that allows a user to select an object display corresponding to a desired item and to designate a desired update mode.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a mode selected through the user interface is reflected on the shared data of the plurality of client processes.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising a setting step of setting the time limit of manipulation execution.

12. to 17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) An information processing apparatus for maintaining, in a system in which each of a plurality of client processes connected via an information transmission medium holds and uses shared data to be shared by the plurality of client processes, consistency of shared data held by the respective plurality of client processes, comprising:

a holding unit configured to hold the shared data, wherein the shared data include a plurality of items, and mode information is provided for each of the plurality of terms;

an input unit configured to input an input manipulation request generated by its own client process;

a determining unit configured to determine a mode, based on designation information used to designate a mode to be adopted to each of a plurality of items included in the shared data, and manipulation contents the mode information corresponding to an item which is a target of the input manipulation request, from a plurality of modes including a first mode, a second mode, and a third mode; and

a processing unit configured to execute a process corresponding to the input manipulation request input by the input unit or a received manipulation request generated by another client process,

wherein the determining unit determines that the mode corresponding to the manipulation request is the first mode or the second mode, when the manipulation contents of the input manipulation request is based on a user's interactive manipulation;

wherein, with regard to execution of the received manipulation request, the processing unit includes:

a receiving unit configured to receive the received manipulation request generated by a client process other than its own client process, via a server process; and

an execution unit configured to execute a process corresponding to the received manipulation request in order of receiving the received manipulation request,

and wherein, with regard to execution of the input manipulation request input in the input step, the processing step includes:

a sending unit configured to, when the manipulation request requests a manipulation of the shared data, send request information that represents the input manipulation request to the server process;

a reception unit configured to receive response information corresponding to the request information sent by said sending unit, from the server process; and

a manipulation execution unit configured to execute a manipulation for the shared data in accordance with the input manipulation request or the response information received in said reception unit,

and wherein, in a case where said determining unit determines that the mode corresponding to the input manipulation request input by said input unit is the first mode, said manipulation execution unit manipulates the shared data in response to the input manipulation request and said sending unit sends the request information indicating the input manipulation request to the server process,

and wherein, in a case where said determining unit determines that the mode corresponding to the input manipulation request input by said input unit is the second mode,

said sending unit sends the request information indicating the manipulation request to the server process in response to the input manipulation request, and

said manipulation execution unit manipulates the shared data based on the input manipulation request indicated by a reception information in response to reception of the reception information when the reception information is received from the server process within a time limit of manipulation execution, and

said manipulation execution unit manipulates the shared data in accordance with the input manipulation request corresponding to the request information when the reception information is not received from the server process within a time limit of manipulation execution,

    and wherein, in a case where said determining unit determines that the mode corresponding to the input manipulation request input in the input step is the third mode,

    said sending unit sends, in accordance with the input manipulation request, request information that represents the input manipulation request to the server process, and

    said manipulation execution unit manipulates the shared data in accordance with the input manipulation request corresponding to the request information in response to reception of the reception information.

19. to 35. (Cancelled).

36. (Previously Presented) A storage medium storing a control program for making a computer execute the information processing method of claim 1.

37. (Cancelled).